

B1
A fourth inventive feature described herein includes the base having a lower surface provided with a shield adjacent the outer flange extending substantially along each arm.

Page 3, amend paragraphs 13 and 15 as follows:

B2
In Figures 1 to 8 of the accompanying drawings, there is schematically depicted a mouthguard 10. The mouthguard 10 is of a "C-shaped" configuration so as to provide a front portion 11 from which there rearwardly diverges a pair of arms 12. The mouthguard 10 in transverse cross-section is of a "U-shaped" configuration so as to provide an inner flange 13 joined to an outer flange 14 by means of a base 15.

B3
The base 15 of the mouthguard 10 includes upper surfaces 18 extending along each arm 12, with each surface 18 providing an ^{occlusal} ~~occlusal~~ table which is generally perpendicular to the flange 13. The surfaces 18 are inclined to the internal surface 19 of the inner flange 13 by an angle between 100 and 120 degrees, preferably 110 degrees.

Page 4, amend paragraphs 4 and 6 as follows:

B4
The shield 30 is of a "C-shaped" configuration so as to ~~have a forward~~ shield portion 33 with two rearwardly extending arms 34. The arms 34 have extremities 35. The shield 30 further has a pair of front arches 36, with each arm 34 having a pair of arches 37.

B5 The body 31 is of a "C-shaped" configuration so as to provide a front body portion 38 from which there rearwardly diverges a pair of arms 39. The body 31 is transverse cross-section is of a "U-shaped" configuration so as to provide an inner flange 40 joined to an outer flange 41 by means of a base 42. Each of the arms 39 has an extremity 43.

B6 With the shield 30 embedded in the body 31 as illustrated in Figs. 14-20, the shield portion 33 is embedded in the body portion 38 of the body 31. The shield arms 34 extend within the body arm 39 so that their extremities 35 terminate just short of the arm extremities 43.

Amend the paragraph bridging pages 4 and 5 as follows:

B7 In Figure 31 there is schematically depicted a mouthguard 56 including a mouthguard body 50. The mouthguard body 50 is of a similar configuration to the previously described mouthguards. More particularly, the mouthguard body 50 has an inner flange 51 joined to an outer flange 52 by means of a base 53. The base 53 includes a layer 54 of material that is plastically deformable. More particularly, the layer 54 has a plurality of projections 55 which are plastically deformable to conform to the configuration of the user's teeth. In this embodiment the projections 55 are hollow and cylindrical in form. Received between the flanges 51 and 52 and covering the base 53 is a mouldable layer 57 constructed as follows. Firstly, the interior of the body 50 has applied to it an EVA copolymer coating. To this there is applied a thicker layer of vinyl

B7
containing polydimethylsiloxane. When the person to wear the mouthguard bites on the vinyl material, a dental impression results. However, the projections 55 also deform to provide a physical "key" to bind the vinyl layer to the body 50. In addition to, or as an alternative, the inner and outer flanges 52 and 52 may be provided with ridges 58 to again retain the vinyl layer in position. In this respect it should be appreciated that the vinyl layer may still be "peeled" from within the body 50 should the need arise. For example, when mouthguards are not professionally fitted there is a danger that the mouthguard will be applied to a person having a dental appliance. If the vinyl layer is not removable with respect to the body, considerable difficulty would be encountered in removing the mouthguard.

Page 5, amend paragraphs 2 and 3 as follows:

B8
As an alternative or in addition to the various keying means such as the projections 50 and ridges 58, the vinyl layer may be secured to the body 50 by means of an adhesive. The adhesive may be in liquid or tape form.

In manufacturing the mouthguard body 50, internal surfaces of the mould may be acid etched in order to produce roughened surfaces (for example on the internal surfaces of the flanges 51 and 52) to aid in engaging and retaining the vinyl layer within the body 50.
